THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Operational expenses in providing village public telephones

*74. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently disbursed Rs. 250 crores from the universal services obligation to Fixed Line Service Providers for meeting the operational expenses in providing Village Public Telephones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of villages, covered by BSNL so far, State-wise; and

(d) the details of villages to be covered by BSNL during the year 2003-2004, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Rs. 236.63 crores have been disbursed to six licensed Basic Service Operators who have submitted their claim for respective Service Area towards operational and maintenance expenditue of the Village Public Telephones (VPTs) installed by them.

(b) Details of the amount disbursed State-wise are furnished in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The details of villages covered by BSNL so far, State-wise are furnished in Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) The details of villages to be covered by BSNL during the year 2003-2004, State-wise are furnished in Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Subsidy disbursed for Operation and maintenance for VPTs

(Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of the Service Area/Circle	Name of service provider	Subsidy disbursed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	BSNL	11,54,72,755
		Tata Teleservices	1,29,96,065
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	BSNL	9,50,328
3.	Assam	BSNL	7,49,22,800
4.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	BSNL	32,27,01,521
5.	Gujarat (including Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli)	BSNL	5,45,21,216
		Reliance	63,79,403
6.	Haryana	BSNL	1,75,87,018
7.	Himachal Pradesh	BSNL	10,24,36,225
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	BSNL	3,08,17,275
9.	Karnataka	BSNL	12,43,68,897
10.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	BSNL	25,62,27,355
		Bharti Telenet	20,90,598
11.	Maharashtra (including Goa)	BSNL	
		Tata Teleservices	47,45,359
12.	North East (including Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland & Tripura)	BSNL	2,51,58,121
13.	Orissa	BSNL	17,31,54,934
14.	Punjab (including Chandigarh)	BSNL	1,80,42,634
		HFCL Infotel	14,80,739
15.	Rajasthan	BSNL	16,85,09,052
16.	Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry)	BSNL	5,25,01,411
17.	U.P. (East)	BSNL	36,94,32,136
18.	U.P. (West) (including Uttaranchal)	BSNL	16,07,41,537
19.	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	BSNL	11,96,72,533
	TOTAL:		**236,63,85,345**

Statement-II

Details of villages covered by BSNL (upto 31.3.2003)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total No. of Revenue Villages	Total Villages covered upto 31.3.2003
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	201	198
2.	Andhra Pradesh	29460	23419
3.	Assam	24685	18025
4.	Bihar	41077	38475
5.	Jharkhand	31703	26270
6.	Gujarat	18125	11214
7.	Haryana	6850	6811
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16925	16585
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6764	4249
10.	Karnataka	27066	27066
11.	Kerala	1468	1468
12.	Madhya Pradesh	51806	37597
13.	Chhattisgarh	19720	14665
14.	Maharashtra	42467	31541
15.	Meghalaya	5555	1989
16.	Mizoram	708	605
17.	Tripura	862	748
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	3389	715
19.	Manipur	2439	800
20.	Orissa	46989	40435
21.	Punjab	12687	12687
22.	Rajasthan	39483	23858
23.	Tamil Nadu	17899	17899
24.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	79792	75965
25.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	23604	21268
26.	Uttaranchal	15610	11630
27.	West Bengal	37910	36932
28.	Sikkim	427	374
29.	Kolkata	437	437
30.	Delhi	191	191
31.	Nagaland	1192	829
	TOTAL:	**607491**	**504945**

Statement-III

Details of villages to be covered by BSNL during 2003-2004, State-Wise

Sl. No.	State	Villages to be covered during 2003-04
1.	Assam	6660
2.	Jharkhand	2320
3.	Himachal Pradesh	279
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	2515
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	116
7.	Meghalaya	3566
8.	Mizoram	103
9.	Tripura	114
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	2674
11.	Manipur	1639
12.	Nagaland	363
13.	Orissa	5217
14.	Uttaranchal	3980
15.	Sikkim	53
	TOTAL:	**29600***

*Includes 18006 villages to be provided on Satellite media subjected to availability of equipment and funds.

Widening of NH-6

*75. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned funds for widening of National Highway No. 6 from Sambalpur to Bargarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) National Highway No. 6 in Orissa has already been widened to 2 lane. However, during last three years